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TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · FOREST SERVICE

No. 623

Minnesota Produces 161 Million Board Feet of Lumber--1960.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

A comprehensive survey of 1960 lumber production was completed in Minnesota last year through the combined efforts of the Office of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, the State Division of Forestry, and several county Land Commissioners and staff. The sawmill output data were turned over to the Station for summarizing. The resulting estimates of lumber production by species and counties should be of value to forestry agencies, timber industries, and various other groups.

Results of the survey show that Minnesota sawmills produced about 161½ million board feet of lumber in 1960. This is 18 percent less than was produced in 1953, the most recent year for which a similar survey was made. The decline in lumber output was most pronounced in the Central Pine District (see following table). The slump in production was due in part to closure of several rather large mills in the area.

As in other years, St. Louis and Itasca Counties were the largest lumber producing counties (see table reverse side).

The 1960 lumber output of nearly all species was less than in 1953. Jack pine and aspen in particular were down, declining 35 and 25 percent respectively.

Production of lumber by species and districts,^{1/} Minnesota, 1960
(In thousand board feet, lumber tally)

Species	Northeast District	Central Pine District	Rainy River District	Hardwood District	Prairie District	State total
Balsam fir	1,740	1,909	453	49	22	4,173
Cedar	1,308	191	489	3	58	2,049
Jack pine	4,713	15,026	815	531	2,158	23,243
Red pine	4,411	10,143	378	564	27	15,523
White pine	9,895	9,257	820	1,372	84	21,428
Black spruce	25	7	105	33	-	170
White spruce	1,234	546	424	160	298	2,662
Tamarack	80	590	197	232	195	1,294
Total softwoods	23,406	37,669	3,681	2,944	2,842	70,542
Ash	455	1,816	352	1,264	338	4,225
Aspen	10,206	20,582	2,729	2,445	1,624	37,586
Basswood	269	2,257	54	5,578	781	8,939
Yellow birch	728	73	30	26	18	875
White birch	2,178	926	157	59	38	3,358
Cottonwood	-	-	1	1,216	3,777	4,994
Elm	218	1,000	99	5,941	1,617	8,875
Hickory	-	-	-	12	2	14
Hard maple	106	9	-	382	90	587
Soft maple	27	95	-	1,356	102	1,580
Red oak	276	1,402	-	11,986	819	14,483
White oak	10	357	44	1,969	1,721	4,101
Walnut	-	-	-	193	41	234
Balsam poplar	-	619	1	102	8	730
Butternut	-	2	-	162	2	166
Other	-	-	-	46	8	54
Total hardwoods	14,473	29,138	3,467	32,737	10,986	90,801
All species	37,879	66,807	7,148	35,681	13,828	161,343
Percentage change from 1953 ^{2/}	-12	-31	+7	-5	+15	-18

(Footnotes appear at bottom of next page)

(Over)

Lumber production for specified counties, 1960

(In thousand board feet, lumber tally)

County and district	: Number of : active mills :	Production by species groups			
		All species	Softwoods	Aspen	Other hardwoods
Carlton	40	1,906	1,212	338	356
Cook	22	5,418	1,990	1,529	1,899
Lake	25	5,864	4,337	1,239	288
Pine	15	1,081	170	188	723
St. Louis	190	23,610	15,697	6,912	1,001
Northeast District	292	37,879	23,406	10,206	4,267
Aitkin	42	7,417	901	3,182	3,334
Becker	36	4,253	3,184	801	268
Beltrami	46	12,576	7,628	3,939	1,009
Cass	50	9,301	7,262	1,457	582
Clearwater	38	5,925	1,849	2,998	1,078
Crow Wing	26	5,671	3,264	1,970	437
Hubbard	25	4,171	3,714	446	11
Itasca	83	16,285	8,683	5,781	1,821
Wadena	23	1,208	1,184	8	16
Central Pine District	369	66,807	37,669	20,582	8,556
Koochiching	35	5,809	2,682	2,390	737
Lake of the Woods	13	1,339	999	339	1
Rainy River District	48	7,148	3,681	2,729	738
Hardwood District ^{3/}	(4/)	35,681	2,944	2,445	30,292
Prairie District ^{3/}	(4/)	13,828	2,842	1,624	9,362
State total	(4/)	161,343	70,542	37,586	53,215

1/ Survey method: A complete canvass of sawmills was made in 17 northern counties. These counties normally account for about 70 percent of the total State lumber output. A stratified random area sample was used for the remaining part of the State. The standard error of the lumber estimate is less than 10 percent. Sawmill data in the northern counties were collected by the Office of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation personnel and the Land Commissioners and staff in Aitkin, Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Itasca, and Koochiching Counties. In the southern and western counties sawmill data were collected by Service Foresters employed by the State Division of Forestry.

Because of a difference in survey sampling procedure the Statewide lumber production estimate shown here may differ slightly from the official Federal Government estimate which is not yet available from the Bureau of the Census.

2/ Latest year lumber production figures (by district) are available.

3/ County information not available for Hardwood and Prairie Districts

4/ Not available.

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Arthur G. Horn,
Research Forester